

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSM-03 OMB-01

DHA-02 ORM-02 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /104 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2941

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0915

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, XF

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON SYG'S REPORT ON THE MIDDLE

EAST PEACE CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY. SECURITY COUNCIL MET MARCH 25 IN AFTERNOON TO HEAR SYG WALDHEIM INTRODUCE REPORT AND RELATIVELY MODERATE STATEMENTS BY EGYPT AND JORDAN. EGYPT REVIEWED STANDARD ELEMENTS OF A PALESTINIAN RIGHTS, ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS, ARAB PRISONERS IN WEST BANK JAILS, ISRAELI-SOUTH AFRICAN SIMILARITIES, AND PROMPT RESUMPTION OF GENEVA CONFERENCE. JORDAN PROPOSED A THREE-MEMBER SC COMMISSION UNDER SYG'S AUSPICES TO MONITOR VIOLATIONS OF FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. SECURITY COUNCIL RESUMES DEBATE ON THIS ITEM ON MARCH 28 AT 3:00 PM (ISRAEL AND SYRIA ARE INSCRIBED) TO BE FOLLOWED BY INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WHEN COUNCIL WILL DECIDE ON HOW TO PROCEED FURTHER ON THIS DEBATE. END SUMMARY.
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2. AFTER PROCEDURAL VOTE ON PARTICIPATION OF THE PLO (SEPTEL), SYG WALDHEIM INTRODUCED HIS REPORT. WALDHEIM REITERATED THAT IN HIS OWN VIEW CERTAIN CHANGES OF ATTITUDE ON ALL SIDES ARE DESIRABLE. HE NOTED THAT RECENT STATEMENTS ON THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM BY THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL CONTAIN ELEMENTS THAT

MAY FURTHER THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. HE CALLED FOR REDOUBLING EFFORTS TO CREATE CONDITIONS FAVORABLE TO THE RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND ADDED THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE CONTACTS WITH THE PARTIES AND THE TWO CO-CHAIRMEN.

3. EGYPTIAN PERM REP MEGUID IN A 45-MINUTE STATEMENT NOTED "THE OVER-RIDING FACT THAT THE PARTICIPATING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IS ESSENTIAL IN ANY DEBATE" ON THE MIDDLE EAST. HE DESCRIBED ISRAEL'S OPPOSITION TO GA RES 31/62 AS DEFIANCE OF THE UN AND THE PEACE PROCESS. HE REMARKED ON ISRAEL'S PROCRASTINATION AND PLACING OBSTACLES IN ROAD TO CONVEY PEACE CONFERENCE, I.E., OVER PARTICIPATION OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION. MEGUID SPOKE OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS AND ISRAEL'S BRUTAL OCCUPATION OF WEST BANK. TURNING TO ISRAEL SETTLEMENTS, HE ACCUSED ISRAEL OF A SHAMEFUL RECORD IN "VIOLATION OF EVERY ASPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS" AND POLICIES OF REPRESSION IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. ON ARAB PRISONERS, MEGUID NOTED THE INHUMAN CONDITIONS OF OVER 3,000 ARAB PRISONERS AND WITH REFERENCE TO THE UNHCR'S RESOLUTION ON THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, MEGUID POINTED OUT THAT IT "SHOULD CONCERN ALL WHO CHAMPION THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WORLD". AFTER FURTHER REFERENCE TO ISRAELI PLANS FOR INCREASED SETTLEMENT AND FOR DRILLING FOR OIL IN THE SINAI, HE CONCLUDED BY CALLING ON THE COUNCIL TO PROMOTE THE PEACE PROCESS AS ENVISAGED IN GA RES 31/62 LEADING TOWARD A JUST AND LASTING PEACE WHICH "SHOULD INCLUDE PRIMARILY THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE". MEGUID ADDED THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD CALL FOR THE PROMPT CONVENING OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL THE PARTIES.

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4. JORDANIAN PERM REP NUSEIBEH COVERED STANDARD CHARGES AGAINST ISRAEL IN LOW-KEY AND URGED SC TO LIVE UP TO ITS RESPONSIBILITY AND NOT TO ABANDON THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. NUSEIBEH THEN PROPOSED THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL SET UP A THREE-MEMBER COMMISSION (SUGGESTED CANDIDATES, UK, FRANCE, AND US) TO MONITOR FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION VIOLATIONS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. COMMISSION WOULD PROVIDE A SC PRESENCE IN THE TERRITORIES AND WOULD REPORT MONTHLY TO THE COUNCIL. (COMMENT: INITIAL INFORMAL REACTION BY COUNCIL MEMBERS HAS BEEN COOL TO NUSEIBEH'S PROPOSAL.)

5. COUNCIL ADJOURNED WITH PRESIDENT ANNOUNCING DEBATE ON THIS ITEM WOULD RESUME ON MONDAY, MARCH 28, AT 3:00 PM. SPEAKERS LIST IS LIMITED AT THE PRESENT TO ISRAEL AND SYRIA WITH RUMOR THE PLO WILL PROBABLY INSCRIBE ON MONDAY MORNING. AFTER COUNCIL CONCLUDES DEBATE ON MARCH 28, INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS IN PRESIDENT'S OFFICE TO DETERMINE HOW TO PROCEED ON THIS

ITEM. MOST SC MEMBERS ARE PREPARING STATEMENTS BUT HAVE
INDICATED FLEXIBILITY AS TO TIMING. POSSIBILITY OF POST-
PONING FURTHER MEETINGS HAS BEEN MENTIONED BY SOME MEMBERS
IN VIEW OF INTEREST IN AFFORDING MORE TIME TO SOUTH
AFRICAN DEBATE.
YOUNG

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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